

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please insert the following paragraph between the title and the section heading entitled "Background of the Invention" at page 1, line 3 of the specification:

This application is entitled to and claims the benefit, under 35 U.S.C § 119(e), of U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/198,336, filed April 18, 2000, which is hereby incorporated by reference in its entirety.

Please insert the following paragraph between the paragraph ending on page 13, line 8 and the paragraph beginning on page 13, line 9.

Also within the scope of this invention is the method of the invention performed using thermostable DNA polymerase enzymes having a critical motif which is not derived by mutation, but which critical motif exists as a natural variant.